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IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 3-4, 12, 14, 20-21, 27, 30, and 34 as follows:

A⁶⁴

1　3. (Amended) The method of processing a cashless payment transaction in accordance
2　with claim 2, wherein the step of performing a LOCAL AUTHORIZATION FLAG test
3　further comprises the steps of:
4
5　　　a) determining a CURRENT AUTHORIZATION ATTEMPT, wherein said
6　　　CURRENT AUTHORIZATION ATTEMPT is the current iteration of a local
7　　　authorization routine; and
8
9　　　b) comparing said CURRENT AUTHORIZATION ATTEMPT to a LOCAL
10　　　AUTHORIZATION ROUTINE ENTRY COUNTER.
11

1　4. (Amended) The method of processing a cashless payment transaction in accordance
2　with claim 3, wherein the step of comparing said CURRENT AUTHORIZATION
3　ATTEMPT to a LOCAL AUTHORIZATION ROUTINE ENTRY COUNTER further
4　comprises at least one of the following steps:
5
6　　　a) setting a LOCAL AUTHORIZATION FLAG to invoke entry into said local
7　　　authorization routine when said CURRENT AUTHORIZATION ATTEMPT is
8　　　equal to said LOCAL AUTHORIZATION ROUTINE ENTRY COUNTER; or
9
10　　　b) initiating a data communication with a remote location to obtain authorization
11　　　for said cashless payment transaction.
12

A^{65}

1   12. (Amended) The method of processing a cashless payment transaction in accordance

2   with claim 1, wherein said plurality of local databases are resident at said audit-credit-

3   interactive system.

4

A^{66}

1   14. (Amended) The method of processing a cashless payment transaction in accordance

2   with claim 13, wherein the step of determining if said plurality of card identification data

3   is included in said plurality of local databases includes determining if said plurality of

4   card data is in at least one of the following types of databases:

5

6   a) a positive-database; or

7

8   b) a negative-database;

9

A^{67}

1   20. (Amended) The method of processing a cashless payment transaction in accordance

2   with claim 18, wherein the step of performing at said audit-credit-interactive system a

3   local authorization of said plurality of card identification data further comprises the steps

4   of:

5

6   a) determining a CURRENT AUTHORIZATION ATTEMPT, wherein said

7   CURRENT AUTHORIZATION ATTEMPT is the current iteration of said local

8   authorization routine; and

9

10   b) comparing said CURRENT AUTHORIZATION ATTEMPT to a LOCAL

11   AUTHORIZATION ROUTINE ENTRY COUNTER.

12

1   21. (Amended) The method of processing a cashless payment transaction in accordance

2   with claim 20, wherein the step of comparing said CURRENT AUTHORIZATION

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A 47
cont

3   ATTEMPT to a LOCAL AUTHORIZATION ROUTINE ENTRY COUNTER further

4   comprises at least one of the following steps:

5

6   a) setting a LOCAL AUTHORIZATION FLAG to invoke entry into said local

7   authorization routine when said CURRENT AUTHORIZATION ATTEMPT is

8   equal to said LOCAL AUTHORIZATION ROUTINE ENTRY COUNTER; or

9

10   b) initiating a data communication with said remote location to obtain an

11   authorization approval for said cashless payment transaction.

12

A 68

1   27. (Amended) The method of processing a cashless payment transaction in accordance

2   with claim 26 wherein, the step of determining if said plurality of card identification data

3   is included in said plurality of local databases includes determining if said plurality of

4   card data is in at least one of the following types of databases:

5

6   a) a positive-database; or

7

8   b) a negative-database;

9

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A^{69}

1	30. (Amended) The method of processing a cashless payment transaction in accordance with
2	claim 29, wherein the step of determining if a MAXIMUM AUTHORIZATION
3	ATTEMPTS LIMIT has been reached further comprises:
4	
5	a) determining a CURRENT AUTHORIZATION ATTEMPT wherein, said
6	CURRENT AUTHORIZATION ATTEMPT is the current iteration of said local
7	authorization routine; and
8	
9	b) comparing said CURRENT AUTHORIZATION ATTEMPT to said MAXIMUM
10	AUTHORIZATION ATTEMPTS LIMIT.
11	

A^{70}

1	34. (Amended) The method of processing a cashless payment transaction in accordance
2	with claim 18, wherein the step of settling said cashless payment transaction further
3	comprises the step of:
4	
5	processing said cashless payment transaction in the international currency of
6	origin.
7	

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Respectively Submitted,

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